

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 05269 131524Z

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ACTION NEA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9288

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 5269

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS EAID, JO, US

SUBJECT: LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER BADRAN ON US-GOJ BUDGET
CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) AMMAN 4136, (B) STATE 244143, (C) AMMAN 4351

1. WITH DEPARTMENT CONCURRENCE, I WILL FORWARD THE FOLLOWING
LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER BADRAN IN ORDER TO INITIATE
INFORMAL, BUT REGULAR, CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE EMBASSY
AND THE GOJ CONCERNING THE GOJ'S BUDGETARY PROCESS AND
ANNUAL BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION:

BEGIN TEXT: YOUR EXCELLENCY:

I WANT TO INFORM YOU THAT THE UNITED STATE SECURITY
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR UNITED STATES FISCAL YEAR 1977 HAS
BECOME LAW. THIS LEGISLATION INCLUDES A TOTAL OF \$70
MILLION IN NON-MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE
TO JORDAN. OF THIS AMOUNT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
PROPOSES TO PROVIDE DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1977 \$25
MILLION IN A COMBINATION OF DEVELOPMENT LOANS AND
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. THE REMAINDER, \$45 MILLION,
WILL BE PROVIDED IN DIRECT BUDGET SUPPORT. WE WOULD
EXPECT TO MAKE THE BUDGET SUPPORT AVAILABLE IN THREE
EQUAL PAYMENTS OF \$15 MILLION IN JANUARY, MAY AND
SEPTEMBER OF 1977. THIS INFORMATION SHOULD FACILITATE
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PAGE 02 AMMAN 05269 131524Z

YOUR OWN BUDGET PLANNING.

THESE FUNDS ARE IN ADDITION TO THE \$60 MILLION IN UNEXPECTED TRANSITIONAL QUARTER FUNDS FOR JORDAN WHICH ENABLED THE UNITED STATES TO PROVIDE IN LATE SEPTEMBER 1976 \$51 MILLION TO ASSIST YOUR GOVERNMENT TO RELIEVE A POTENTIALLY SERIOUS BUDGET SITUATION WHICH EMERGED EARLIER THIS YEAR. MY GOVERNMENT WAS PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO ASSIST IN YOUR TIME OF NEED. HOWEVER, AS YOU KNOW THIS WAS A ONE-TIME AND MOST UNUSUAL AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND IS NOT LIKELY TO BE REPEATED.

DURING OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH YOU AND OTHER SENIOR JORDANIAN OFFICIALS ABOUT THE BUDGET SITUATION, IT BECAME CLEAR TO US THAT CONTINUING CONVERSATIONS WITH YOU AS YOU DEVELOP YOUR OWN BUDGET WOULD BE OF MUTUAL BENEFIT. PROJECTIONS OF US ASSISTANCE CAN BE MADE MORE REALISTIC. IN ADDITION, GREATER APPRECIATION OF JORDANIAN BUDGET DEVELOPMENTS WILL ASSIST THE EMBASSY IN ITS ASSESSMENT OF PROGRAMS OF ASSISTANCE TO JORDAN. OF COURSE, WE WOULD HAVE NO INTENTION OF BECOMING INVOLVED IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS UNDERTAKEN BY YOUR GOVERNMENT IN THE FORMULATION AND EXECUTION OF ITS BUDGET.

IF THIS IS AGREEABLE TO YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT, WE WOULD LIKE TO PURSUE THE SUGGESTION OF CONTINUING THE CLOSE CONSULTATION DEVELOPED DURING THIS YEAR'S BUDGET PROBLEM ON A REGULAR BASIS AT A CONVENIENT EARLY OPPORTUNITY. END TEXT.
PICKERING

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